GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1313
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Price Stabilisation Fund for Rubber
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether the Government is planning to utilise the price stabilisation fund to rescue rubber farmers in the country;

b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds provided for rubber plantation/ production during the last five years;

c) whether the State Government of Kerala has requested the Government for price stabilisation fund to support rubber farmers; and

d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) to (b): Price Stabilization Scheme was implemented by the Central Government from the year 2003 to 2013 with a view to protect the farmers of plantation crops including rubber, from losses on account of price fluctuations with the support from the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF). Funds spent for implementation of various plan schemes for the rubber plantation sector during the last five years are as under:

Year Funds spent under plan scheme - Rubber Board (Rs. in crore)
2010-11 140.97
2011-12 176.34
2012-13 158.09
2013-14 161.03
2014-15 162.23

The scheme was reviewed and in light of the experience of implementing the Scheme, a market-linked Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) has been devised for protecting the farmers of plantation crops, including rubber plantations, against losses arising from both fluctuations in yield as well as prices.

(c) to (d): The State Government of Kerala has suggested a Price Support Scheme for rubber crops in the interest of rubber cultivators in Kerala. The Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) includes provisions to stabilize incomes of rubber farmers through appropriate insurance cover against price and production uncertainties.
*****